Docket No. 500.38284CP2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Makoto MATSUOKA et al.

Serial No.

§53b Continuation of 09/534,521 filed 3/24/2000

Filed

23 June 2003

For

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

SEPARATING SEMICONDUCTOR CHIPS

Group

Unassigned (Parent - 2825)

Examiner

Unassigned (Parent - Calvin Lee)

Conf. No.

Unassigned (Parent - 1401)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner of Patents POB 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23 June 2003

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee of the above-identified new US continuation application, Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments and remarks.

This Amendment is being submitted in the "Revised Format" of the manner of making amendments under 37 CFR §1.121 signed into effect in the Revised Notice dated 02/13/03 and available to all Applicants, where the current requirement to provide a clean version is waived. Therefore, each section of amendment begins on a new page, and the current status of all claims is given as: all claims presently or previously cancelled, or withdrawn from consideration, indicated only by number and status; all claims being amended herein including markings to show changes by strikethrough and underlining to indicate deletions and additions, respectively; and all claims not being amended herein presented in clean version.